



Report on the implementation of AEWA for the period 2018-2020

The format for reports on the implementation of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) for the period 2018-2020 was approved by the 7th Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP7, 4-8 December 2018, Durban, South Africa) through Resolution 7.1 and modified by the Standing Committee at its 15th meeting (11-13 December 2019, Bristol, UK) as mandated by the MOP. This format has been compiled following the AEWA Annex 3 (Action Plan), the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027 and resolutions of the MOP.

In accordance with article V(c) of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds, each Party shall prepare to each ordinary session of the MOP a National Report on its implementation of the Agreement and submit that report to the Agreement Secretariat. By Resolution 7.1 of the MOP the deadline for submission of National Reports to the 8th Session of the MOP was set at 180 days before the opening date of MOP8, which was scheduled to take place on 5-9 October 2021 in Hungary; therefore the deadline for submission of National Reports was Thursday 8 April 2021.

As per Resolution 7.1 of the MOP, Chapter 3 of the National Report Format for MOP8 reports was developed as a stand-alone online reporting module, which was administered through a separate reporting process on the population status of AEWA-listed (native) and non-native species of waterbirds for the period 2013-2018. This reporting process was concluded on 30 June 2020 as agreed by MOP7. Therefore, this report does not contain Chapter 3.

The AEWA National Reports 2018-2020 were compiled and submitted through the AEWA Online National Reporting System, which is part of the broader CMS Family Online Reporting System. The CMS Family Online Reporting System was developed by the UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) in close collaboration with and under the guidance of the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat.

1. General Information

Name of reporting Contracting Party

>>> Egypt

Date of entry into force of AEWA in the Contracting Party

>>> 01/11/1999

List any reservations that the Contracting Party has made (if any) in respect of any population(s) listed in Table 1 of Annex 3 or any specific provision of the AEWA Action Plan - either upon deposition of its instruments of accession (per AEWA, Article XV) or subsequent to any amendment of Table 1 or the AEWA Action Plan, as adopted by a session of the Agreement's Meeting of the Parties (per AEWA, Article X.6).

EU member states should list also all reservations entered by the European Commission on behalf of the European Union.

>>> None

2. Institutional Information

Please update information on the National AEWA Administrative Authority, the National Focal Points, the Designated National Respondent and the other contributors to this report.

Designated National AEWA Administrative Authority

Full name of the institution

>>> Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency

Name and title of the head of institution

>>> Dr. Enas Abu Taleb - CEO of the EEAA

Mailing address - Street and number

>>> 30 Misr Helwan El-Zerae Rd, Maadi

P.O.Box

>>> NA

Postal code

>>> 11728

City

>>> Cairo

Country

>>> Egypt

Telephone

>>> (202) 25256452

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>>> (202) 25256490

E-mail

>>> ceo.eeaa@eeaa.gov.eg

Website

>>> www.eeaa.gov.eg

Designated National Focal Point (NFP) for AEWA matters

Name and title of the NFP

>>> Dr. Ayman Hamada, Head of the Biodiversity Central Administration

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[AEWA Egypt NFP.pdf](#) - nomination form for new NFP

Affiliation (institution, department)

>>> Nature Conservation Sector, EEAA

Mailing address - Street and number

>>> 30 Misr Helwan El Zerae Rd, Maadi, Cairo

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>>> 11728

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Telephone

>>> +2 02 25 27 1391

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>>> +202 25248792 or +2 02 25 280 931

E-mail

>>> aymanhamada@yahoo.com

Website

>>> www.eeaa.gov.eg

Designated National Focal Point for AEWA Technical Committee (TC NFP) matters

Name and title of the TC NFP

>>> Not yet assigned

P.O.Box

>>> NA

Designated National Focal Point for Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA NFP) matters

Name and title of the CEPA NFP

>>> to be assigned shortly

Designated National Respondent (DNR) in charge of the compilation and submission of the AEWA National Report 2018-2020

Please select from the list below as appropriate.

The National Focal Point (NFP) has been designated as the National Respondent

Other contributors to the AEWA National Report 2018-2020

Please list the names and affiliations (institution, organisation) of the other contributors to this report. For Contracting Parties in which nature conservation is not an exclusive competence of national/federal government, Designated National Respondents are encouraged to seek input from other relevant levels of government.

>>> Management of wetlands and conservation of natural resources in Egypt is a multisectoral responsibility. Nevertheless, the NCS is the responsible government authority in charge of conserving biodiversity and ecosystems particularly wild fauna and flora. Due to the limitation of available time, the national respondent hasn't been able to communicate with many stakeholders except the academia and the General Authority for Fish Resources Development which is the Egyptian government authority for managing wetlands except those declared as protected areas that remain under the mandate and responsibilities of NCS, EEAA.

Pressures and Responses

4. Species Conservation

4.1 Legal Measures

1. Following MOP7, was a review undertaken in your country of the relevant domestic legislation against the provisions of the latest version of the Agreement text and its annexes, including Table 1 in Annex III, taking into account all amendments adopted by MOP7? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Actions 1.1 (a), 1.1 (b), 2.2(a) and 2.2(b))

Yes

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> The review process is underway

2. Was your country's national legislation reviewed following the Guidance on Measures in National Legislation for Different Populations of the Same Species, Particularly with Respect to Hunting and Trade (Resolution 6.7)?

See Appendix 1 / Appendix 2 / Appendix 3

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> There are no particular reasons.

The review process is underway and is led by the RESSOURCE project.

3. Please confirm the protection status under your country's national legislation of the AEWA Table 1, Column A populations that are regularly occurring in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.1; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 1.1).

Guidance on responding to this question:

1- Please click here and download the Excel file starting with your country's name. (**Notice:** before clicking on this hyperlink, please keep pressing the Ctrl button on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.)

2- Fill in the Excel template comprehensively;

3- Upload the completed Excel file as an attachment here. For uploading please click on the little blue icon below containing a paper clip.

I confirm that I have downloaded the Excel file with my country's name, filled it in as necessary and uploaded the completed file as an attachment to this question.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Egypt_Q3_AEWA_NR_2018-2020_PopColA.xlsx](#) - Egypt_Q3_AEWA NR 2018-2020_PopColA

4. Please confirm whether there is an open hunting season for the AEWA Table 1, Column A, category 2 or 3 with an asterisk or category 4 populations that are regularly occurring in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.1; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 1.1).

Guidance on responding to this question:

1- Please click here and download the Excel file starting with your country's name. (**Notice:** before clicking on this hyperlink, please keep pressing the Ctrl button on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.)

2- Fill in the Excel template comprehensively;

3- Upload the completed Excel file as an attachment here. For uploading please click on the little blue icon below containing a paper clip.

I confirm that I have downloaded the Excel file with my country's name, filled it in as necessary and uploaded the completed file as an attachment to this question.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Egypt_Q4_AEWA_NR_2018-2020_PopColA-Cat2_3_4.xlsx](#) - Egypt_Q4_AEWA NR 2018-2020_PopColA-Cat2,3,4

5. Please confirm whether taking is regulated for the AEWA Table 1, Column B populations that are regularly occurring in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.2; AEWA Strategic

Plan 2019-2027, Target 1.1).

Guidance on responding to this question:

1- Please click here and download the Excel file starting with your country's name. (**Notice:** before clicking on this hyperlink, please keep pressing the Ctrl button on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.)

2- Fill in the Excel template comprehensively;

3- Upload the completed Excel file as an attachment here. For uploading please click on the little blue icon below containing a paper clip.

I confirm that I have downloaded the Excel file with my country's name, filled it in as necessary and uploaded the completed file as an attachment to this question.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Egypt_Q5_AEWA_NR_2018-2020_PopColB.xlsx](#) - Egypt_Q5_AEWA NR 2018-2020_PopColB

6. Please indicate if any of the following modes of taking are prohibited in your country: snares, limes, hooks, live birds which are blind or mutilated used as decoys, tape recorders and other electronic devices, electrocuting devices, artificial light sources, mirrors and other dazzling devices, devices for illuminating targets, sighting devices for night shooting comprising an electronic image magnifier or image converter, explosives, nets, traps, poison, poisoned or anesthetic baits, semi-automatic or automatic weapons with a magazine capable of holding more than two rounds of ammunition, hunting from aircraft, motor vehicles, or boats driven at a speed exceeding 5 km p/h (18 km p/h on the open sea), other non-selective modes of taking. (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.2(b); AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 1.1)

Yes, one or more modes of taking have been prohibited

Please provide details to each mode of taking in the list below:

Snares

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Annual Ministerial Decree to organize bird hunt activities.

Limes

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Annual Ministerial Decree to organize bird hunt activities.

Hooks

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Annual Ministerial Decree to organize bird hunt activities.

Live birds which are blind or mutilated used as decoys

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Annual Ministerial Decree to organize bird hunt activities.

Tape recorders and other electronic devices

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Annual Ministerial Decree to organize bird hunt activities.

Electrocuting devices

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Annual Ministerial Decree to organize bird hunt activities.

Artificial light sources

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Annual Ministerial Decree to organize bird hunt activities.

Mirrors and other dazzling devices

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Annual Ministerial Decree to organize bird hunt activities.

Devices for illuminating targets

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Annual Ministerial Decree to organize bird hunt activities.

Sighting devices for night shooting comprising an electronic image magnifier or image converter

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Annual Ministerial Decree to organize bird hunt activities.

Explosives

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Annual Ministerial Decree to organize bird hunt activities.

Nets

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> among the few allowed methods. one of the historically traditional methods

Poison

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Annual Ministerial Decree to organize bird hunt activities.

Poisoned or anaesthetic baits

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Annual Ministerial Decree to organize bird hunt activities.

Semi-automatic or automatic weapons with a magazine capable of holding more than two rounds of ammunition

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Annual Ministerial Decree to organize bird hunt activities.

Hunting from aircraft, motor vehicles, or boats driven at a speed exceeding 5 km p/h (18 km p/h on the open sea)

Yes, fully

Please indicate the legislation under which the mode of taking is prohibited

>>> Annual Ministerial Decree to organize bird hunt activities.

Other non-selective modes of taking

No

Please specify which other non-selective modes of taking have been prohibited

>>> One of the traditional methods consists of a net that is stabilized in a body of water, surrounded by bird decoys. This net is connected to a string that is held by the trapper, and once a bird descends into the vicinity, the string is pulled and the net closes in to trap the bird.

Please explain the reasons

>>> non-selective mass capture method

If one or more non-selective modes of taking have not been prohibited, please explain the reasons

>>> some traditional non-selective methods using special nets are allowed. one example is a net similar to fishing nets to be thrown by hunters at shrubs and small trees to capture birds.

7. Has your country granted exemptions from any of the above prohibitions in order to accommodate livelihoods uses? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.2(b); AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 1.1)

Yes

Please select from the list below those prohibited means of taking for which your country has granted exemptions:

Nets

Traps

Please provide further details on the exemption(s) granted from the prohibition of nets, including measures taken to ensure that use is sustainable.

>>> non-selective techniques using nets are allowed to accommodate livelihoods uses. Using nets in different ways and techniques can be considered the widely used methods by local people and that's why the legislations provide some flexibility regarding using very few non-selective methods provided that the compliance with the annual guidelines, rules, and regulations.

The exemption is only for traditional hunters from the local communities provided that hunting is outside protected areas and the hunting mode doesn't support capturing big numbers and finally if the hunt is for subsistence or for supporting the livelihoods of traditional hunters.

Please provide further details on the exemption(s) granted from the prohibition of traps, including measures taken to ensure that use is sustainable.

>>> As outlined above, traditional modes of hunt that don't support taking of big numbers of waterbirds are exempted for reasons of supporting the livelihoods and subsistence of the local traditional hunters. Those traditional hunters may use in certain unprotected sites some simple traditional traps using nets and wooden sticks to catch few birds.

8. Were any exemptions granted to the prohibitions required by paragraphs 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 of the AEWA Action Plan? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.1.3; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 1.1)

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

Yes

Please provide information on each species for which exemption was granted

Egypt

Exemption for Common Shelduck / *Tadorna tadorna*

Purpose of exemption (from the AEWA Action Plan)

(b) In the interests of air safety, public health, public safety, or other imperative reasons of overriding public interests, including those of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance to the environment

Number of individuals for which exemption was granted

>>> the species is among the list that is allowed for hunting during the open hunt season.

Number of eggs for which exemption was granted

>>> it is not allowed to take eggs. exemptions are for the birds

Territorial coverage of the exemption

Guidance: Name the territory(ies) covered by the exemption

>>> the Mediterranean coast

Time span of the exemption

Guidance: indicate the period for which the exemption is/was valid

>>> Mid-October to Mid-March

Year when the exemption was granted

>>> 2011

9. Has a review of enforcement of and compliance with the domestic legislation relevant for AEWA implementation, [in particular the legislation which caters for the obligations under paragraphs 2.1 and 4.1 of the AEWA Action Plan], been undertaken in your country after MOP7? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Actions 1.1(c) and 2.2(c))

Yes

When was the review completed? Please attach a copy or provide a weblink, if available.

>>> The review of enforcement is done annually in the process of supervising and monitoring the hunting activities but with limited efficiency due to a lack of human and financial resources.

What is the assessed level of enforcement and compliance?

Low (more non-compliance than compliance)

Please provide details and reasons for the higher level of non-compliance. Please describe in which areas enforcement and compliance are still insufficient.

>>> lack of enforcement tools

Have any measures been put in place to ensure strengthened enforcement and compliance?

Yes

Please describe the measures

>>> cooperation with the NGOs

Awareness campaigns

periodical inspection visits with support of the environmental police

10. Has your country used the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on National Legislation for the Protection of Species of Migratory Waterbirds and their Habitats?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What other guidance has been used instead?

>>> The rules and guidelines for organizing bird hunts are older than the AEWA agreement. They were set in 1994 then amended in 2009. They relied mainly on guidance and experience gained from the CBD, CMS, IUCN, and experts' opinions. The system has been reviewed before and now it's under thorough revision. The AEWA guidelines will be considered.

4.2. Species Action and Management Plans

11. Please report on the progress of turning the International Single Species Action and Management Plans (ISSAP and ISSMP), as well as International Multi-species Action Plans (IMSAP), listed below, into National Action or Management Plans. (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.2; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 1.2 (d))

Please report on all listed ISSAP, ISSMP and IMSAP

Ferruginous Duck / Aythya nyroca

National Plan for Ferruginous Duck / Aythya nyroca

No NP and no action implemented

Corncrake / Crex crex

National Plan for Corncrake / Crex crex

No NP and no action implemented

Great Snipe / Gallinago media
National Plan for Great Snipe / Gallinago media

No NP and no action implemented

Black-winged Pratincole / Glareola nordmanni
National Plan for Black-winged Pratincole / Glareola nordmanni

No NP and no action implemented

Black-tailed Godwit / Limosa limosa
National Plan for Black-tailed Godwit / Limosa limosa

No NP and no action implemented

Eurasian Spoonbill / Platalea leucorodia
National Plan for Eurasian Spoonbill / Platalea leucorodia

No NP and no action implemented

12. Has your country provided assistance for the coordination and implementation of International Species Action or Management Plans through funding of AEWA International Species Working and Expert Groups? (Resolution 7.5)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> no particular reasons

13. Has your country provided financial or in-kind assistance for the development of new International Species Action or Management Plans? (Resolution 7.5)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> no particular reasons

14. Has a review and prioritization been undertaken in your country of the resources needed to develop national action plans in response to ISSAPs, implement those plans and coordinate their implementation? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 1.2(g))

No

15. Does your country have in place or is your country developing a National Single Species Action Plan for any species/population for which an AEWA ISSAP has not been developed? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.2.2)

No

16. Has your country used the AEWA Conservation Guidelines for the preparation of National Single Species Action Plans for migratory waterbirds?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What has been used instead as a basis for the preparation of NSSAPs?

>>> The existed laws provide protection for almost all the waterbird species and all the habitats.

The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2030 also provide the base for protection of the waterbirds.

4.3 Emergency Measures

17. Please report on any emergency situation that has occurred in your country over the past triennium and has threatened waterbirds. (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.3)

Please indicate whether an emergency situation threatening waterbirds, such as botulism, chemical pollution,

earthquake, extreme weather, fire, harmful algal bloom, infectious disease, introduction of alien species, lead poisoning, nuclear accident, oil spill, predation, volcanic activity, war or other emergency (please specify), has occurred in the country over the past triennium.

No emergency situation has occurred

18. Are there any other emergency response measures, different from the ones applied in response to the emergency situations reported above, that were developed and are in place in your country so that they can be used in future in emergency cases?

No

19. Has your country used the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on identifying and tackling emergency situations for migratory waterbirds?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What was used instead as a basis for dealing with emergency situations?

>>> No particular reasons

Monitoring programs of the protected areas are used instead

4.4 Re-establishments

20. Is your country maintaining a national register of re-establishment projects occurring or planned to occur wholly or partly within your country? (Resolution 4.4)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> There is only a study still not finalized for reintroduction of Sacred Ibis and the result of this study is not published yet. The waterbirds issues still not a priority in for the government including environment ministry except for birds flu incidence. However there are some potentials for resolving this point with the presence of some regional and international cooperation projects for conservation and for monitoring and studying migratory waterbirds such as Mediterranean wetland observatory project, migratory soaring birds project in addition to sample scale project for conducting waterbirds census in selected wetlands (i.e with ONCFS-France and RAC/SPA- Tunisia).

21. Is there a regulatory framework for re-establishments of species, including waterbirds, in your country (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.4)?

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> A regulatory framework and technical guidelines are developed for captive breeding, reintroduction, rehabilitation, and rescue of wildlife in general.

22. Has your country considered, developed or implemented re-establishment projects for any species/population listed on AEWA Table 1? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.4)

No

23. Has your country used the AEWA conservation Guidelines on the translocation of waterbirds for conservation purposes?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What was used instead as a basis for dealing with the issue?

>>> translocations are not yet planned

4.5 Introductions

24. Does your country have legislation in place, which prohibits the introduction into the environment of non-native species of animals and plants which may be detrimental to migratory waterbirds? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.5.1)

Yes, and being enforced

Please provide the following details: title of legislation, year of adoption, institution that adopted it,

institution that enforces it. Please clarify whether legislation applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces.

>>> 1. Law no 4 of 1994 in its appendix no 4 of the executive regulations prohibits import and introduction of non-indigenous to the environment without permit from the EEAA. The laws applies to the entire country. it is adopted by the Ministry of Environment and EEAA and enforced by MoE which involves EEAA and NCS
2. Law no 102 of 1983 for Protected Areas prohibits introduction of non-indigenous species into the protected areas. The law is adopted by the EEAA and is enforced by NCS/EEAA.

25. Does your country impose legislative requirements on zoos, private collections, etc. in order to avoid the accidental escape of captive animals belonging to non-native species which may be detrimental to migratory waterbirds? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.5.2)

Yes, but not being enforced properly or at all

Please provide the following details: title of the document, year of adoption, institution that adopted it, institution that enforces it, including reasons for non-enforcement. Please clarify whether legislation applies to/is consistent throughout the entire country or only to particular states/provinces.

>>> Laws of the Environment

Laws, rules, and regulations of the Veterinary Services of the Ministry of Agriculture

26. Has your country considered, developed or implemented programmes to control or eradicate non-native species of waterbird so as to prevent negative impacts on indigenous species? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 2.5.3)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of human and financial resources.

27. Has your country considered, developed or implemented programmes to control or eradicate other non-native species (in particular aquatic weeds and terrestrial predators) so as to prevent negative impacts on migratory waterbirds? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraphs 2.5.3 and 4.3.10 and Resolution 5.15)

Yes

Please list the non-native species for which relevant action has been undertaken

>>> The aquatic weeds and reeds.

Please provide further information for each relevant programme

>>> As part of the National Program for Rehabilitation of the Northern Lakes. The program is currently being implemented in Burullus and Manzala Lakes and will extend to cover all the lakes.

28. Has your country used the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on avoidance of introductions of non-native waterbird species?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What was used instead as a basis for dealing with the issue?

>>> no particular reasons.

national legal framework and NBSAP are used instead

4.6 Seabirds

The country has maritime territories and the AEWA seabird conservation priorities are relevant for the country:

Yes

29. Does your country have comprehensive data on seabird by-catch? (Resolution 7.6)

No

Please explain the reasons.

>>> lack of monitoring

When and how do you plan to fill these data gaps?

>>> to be considered in the following years.
a more efficient monitoring program needs to be in place

30. Have you assessed the impact of by-catch by artisanal fisheries to AEWA-listed seabirds? (Resolution 7.6)

No

31. Have you assessed the impact of artisanal/recreational fisheries on seabirds' prey? (Resolution 7.6)

No

32. Has your country undertaken steps towards the adoption/application of measures to reduce the incidental catch of seabirds and combat Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing practices in the Agreement Area? (Resolution 3.8)

Yes

Please provide short description of all actions

>>> the national law for organizing fisheries management is being updated. the national competent authority is under institutional reform.

33. Does your country have comprehensive data on hunting and egg harvesting (both legal and illegal) of AEWA-listed seabirds? (Resolution 7.6)

No

34. Have you assessed the impact of hunting and egg harvesting (both legal and illegal) on AEWA-listed seabirds? (Resolution 7.6)

No

35. Have you identified those seabird colonies at risk from invasive non-native species? (Resolution 7.6)

No

36. Have you identified the key coastal and at-sea areas where responses to oil spills would be most urgently required in relation to the presence of AEWA-listed seabirds? (Resolution 7.6)

No

38. Have you identified priority sites by filling gaps in the Critical Site Network for seabirds (breeding, non-breeding, pelagic and coastal areas)? (Resolution 7.6)

No

Pressures and Responses

5. Habitat Conservation

5.1 Habitat Inventories

39. Has your country identified the network of all sites of international and national importance for the migratory waterbird species/populations listed on Table 1? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 3.1.2; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 3.1(a))

Yes

Please provide full reference, e.g. title, year, authors, etc. or a web link

>>> Baha El Din, S., 1999: Directory of Important Bird Areas in Egypt. BirdLife International. The Palm Press. Cairo

Have you reviewed, confirmed and communicated to the AEWA Secretariat after MOP7 the inventory of known nationally and internationally important sites in your country?

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> no particular reasons

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> 34 Important Bird Areas have been identified. The process was led and approved by Birdlife International. The 34 IBAs cover more than 36000 sq km. Many of these IBAs are protected under the national protected areas system. Some of them are listed in the future protected areas plan. Although there is no designated laws for the protection of the IBAs but they are certainly protected by Law 4 of 1994 for protection of environment that prohibits any damage or harm all the habitats and ecosystems.

40. If your country has identified or is currently identifying the networks of sites of international and national importance, were the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on the preparation of site inventories for migratory waterbirds used?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What has been used instead as a basis for the inventory?

>>> The identification process was carried out under supervision and support of Birdlife International

5.2. Conservation of Areas and Habitats

41. Has your country assessed the future implications of climate change for protected areas and other sites important for waterbirds (i.e. resilience of sites to climate change)? (Resolution 5.13)

For one or more single sites

Yes

Please give details as to where relevant information about these assessments have been published (either as publications or web-link).

>>> Impact of climate change on sites and protected areas that are important for waterbirds is not efficiently studied. The main reason is lack of financial capacities. Nevertheless there are some discrete studies that were carried out several years ago like;

(Bubenger et al. 2008) showed that Egypt's climate has changed greatly over the last 10,000 years
Hegazy et al. (2008) studied the seasonal temperature distributions in Egypt in the years 2005, 2025, 2050, 2075 and 2100.

There are some other projects, studies and reports that assessed the impact of climate change on the northern coast and Nile delta region like;

1. The "Adaptation to climate change in the Nile Delta through Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Egypt" project

2. The "Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation in the North Coast of Egypt" project

For the national protected area network

No

Please explain the reasons.

>>> Lack of capacities.

Some efforts were carried out to study the impact of climate change on Lake Burullus which is one of the protected areas.

Another study was carried out in Saint Katherine Protectorate in 2014-2015 to assess the effects of climate change on the disappearance of living organisms on peaks of Saint Katherine due to rise of temperature.

42. Which sites that were identified as important, either internationally or nationally, for Table 1 migratory waterbird species/populations have been designated as protected areas under the national legislation and have management plans that are being implemented, including with the aim to increase resilience to the effects of climate change? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 3.2.1; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 3.3)

Please report separately on internationally important sites, nationally important sites and buffer zones.

Reporting on designation and management of internationally important sites

Reporting on designation and management of nationally important sites. (Sites of national importance excludes the sites already reported above as internationally important)

All sites of international importance

(sites recognized as having international importance for migratory waterbirds following criteria of, for instance, the AEWA Critical Site Network, the Ramsar Convention, the EU Birds Directive (SPAs), the Bern Convention Emerald Network, the BirdLife International's Important Bird Areas)

Total number

>>> 34

Total area (ha)

>>> 3,617,382

Number of internationally important sites under national protection designation

>>> 12

Area of international importance under national protection designation (ha)

>>> 1,445,389

Please rate the effectiveness of the national protection designation

High

Please provide details and reasons for the high level of effectiveness.

>>> The protected areas are carefully selected to represent all the ecosystem types that exist in Egypt.

The legal framework is very strict regarding the protection of natural resources inside the protected areas system.

We periodically run an assessment of the management effectiveness of protected areas and take the results into considerations.

Internationally important protected sites with a management plan in place which is being implemented

Number of sites

>>> 2

Area (in ha)

>>> 85,000

Please rate the effectiveness of the management measures

Moderate

Internationally important sites with a management plan in place which is being implemented and includes management objectives related to maintaining or increasing the resilience of existing ecological networks, including resilience to climate change

Number of sites

>>> 2

Area (in ha)

>>> 85,000

All sites of national importance

Total number

>>> 27

Total area (ha)

>>> 3,204,800

Number of nationally important sites under national protection designation

>>> 7

Area of national importance under national protection area designation

>>> 3,204,800

Please rate the effectiveness of the national protection designation

Moderate

Nationally important protected sites with a management plan in place which is being implemented

Number of sites

>>> 14

Area (in ha)

>>> 70,000

Please rate the effectiveness of the management measures

Moderate

Area (in ha)

>>> 70,000

Examples of best practice (optional)

If any site, in your opinion, represents an outstanding process of management planning or implementation, please highlight it as an example of best practice (alternatively provide a web link or attach a file)

>>> Management of the huge area designated for wind power development in Gulf of Suez area. Two IBAs are located within the area of wind farms and the whole area is part of the Red Sea/ Rift Valley Flyway for Migratory Soaring Birds. A protocol was signed among all the governmental stakeholders to implement the EEAA guidelines for establishment of wind farms for the purpose of minimizing the impact on migratory and resident birds. operation of the wind turbines are controlled by an "Active Turbine Management Program" during the migratory seasons in Autumn and Spring. The ATMP is based upon applying Radar Based Shutdown on Demand together with the visual observations of qualified ornithologists on the farm. Criteria of Shutdown on demand are defined by the EEAA and aim at mitigating the impact of wind farms on migratory birds. To date the program is running successfully as the bird collisions are very very low, none of the victims since starting the ATMP is endangered species and most casualties are due to collision with the transmission power cables.

DESIGNATION GAP FILLING

Yes

Please provide full reference or a web link, as well as details concerning the process and the status of this strategy / plan

>>> The protected areas system is currently under a long and comprehensive review process. The purpose of the process is to assess the management effectiveness and the capacity of the protected areas to provide their services and values. The future proposed protected area network is also under a similar process that aims at evaluating the status of these sites and update the list of the future protected areas and take the required steps to declare the priority sites.

Has it been implemented?

Yes, being implemented

Please provide details, including when it is expected to be concluded

>>> The protected areas system is currently under a long and comprehensive review process. The purpose of the process is to assess the management effectiveness and the capacity of the protected areas to provide their services and values. The future proposed protected area network is also under a similar process that aims at evaluating the status of these sites and update the list of the future protected areas and take the required steps to declare the priority sites.

MANAGEMENT GAP FILING

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> There is no action plans designated for waterbirds.

Management is carried out as part of the natural resources management plans of the protected areas.

44. Is the network of nationally and internationally important sites for migratory waterbirds integrated into your country's water- and land-use policies and planning and decision-making processes? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 3.4)

Yes, partially

Please provide details and reasons for partial integration

>>> The IBAs and Protected Areas network are already part of the National Land Use Plan. Law 4 of 1994 and its amendments regulate and define the tools and mechanism of protecting the IBAs. The integration process has achieved varying degrees of success in some development sectors like energy, tourism, and solid waste while facing some challenges and difficulties in some other sectors

45. Has your country used the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on the management of key sites for migratory waterbirds?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What guidance has been used instead?

>>> sites that are not declared as protected areas are poorly managed while the sites that are declared as protected areas are managed under the framework of protected areas management that follows the IUCN guidelines.

46. Has the Critical Site Network (CSN) Tool for the AEWA area been accessed and used in your country? (Resolution 7.9)

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

Yes

Please give examples of how you have used the CSN Tool

>>> the site is checked periodically by NCS staff to have access to updated data on the critical sites and species.

the site is communicated with many governmental institutions to collect reliable data on water birds. the list includes the ministry of civil aviation, ministry of defence and academia.

47. Following MOP7, has your country been involved in the establishment of innovative, international, multi-stakeholder partnerships to guide the development and implementation of habitat management, creation and restoration projects in the wider environment? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 4.4(a))

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> no particular reason

nevertheless, a big national program to restore the status of the national lakes and wetlands is being implemented.

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 5.2. Conservation of Areas and Habitats

>>> The important areas for waterbirds that are declared as protected areas are managed as part of the conservation programs of the protected areas, thus NCS is following a holistic approach in conserving the national ecosystems.

Those areas which are of international importance and aren't declared as protected areas have also a good level of protection through Law 4 of 1994 for protection of environment. a number of those areas are listed in the future protected areas list.

The NCS is targeting the sustainable use of the natural resources through active engagement of the local communities in management of the resources. A number of Community Based Natural Resource Management schemes are being implemented in three protected areas.

Pressures and Responses

6. Management of Human Activities

6.1. Hunting

48. Does the legislation of your country implement the principle of sustainable use of waterbirds, as envisaged in the AEWA Action Plan, taking into account the full geographical range of the waterbird populations concerned and their life history characteristics? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.1; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 2.2)

Yes

Please provide details on how this is achieved and reference to the relevant legislation

>>> - only 15 waterbirds species are permitted for hunting, most of them are categorized as LC in the IUCN red list.

- the legislations allow for revision and update of the list of permitted species according to updates in their conservation status.

- the rules and regulations encourage the traditional non-destructive hunting techniques and prohibit many non-selective mass capturing techniques.

- it is prohibited to hunt birds in their return to their breeding grounds so the open hunting season ends by the onset of the spring season.

- it is fully prohibited to cause any kind of disturbance nor take from the protected areas network and the IBAs network all over the year.

49. Does your country have an established system for the collection of harvest data, which covers the species/populations listed in Table 1? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.3; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 2.1(b))

Yes

Does it cover the following? (tick where applicable and provide details)

All AEWA species occurring in your country

Only some AEWA species occurring in your country

>>> Only 15 AEWA species are allowed for hunt. The harvest data collection system is applied for some of these species.

Does it cover the following? (tick where applicable and provide details)

The whole territory of your country

Only part of the territory of your country

>>> Controlled artificial lakes owned by the private sector. This is done with the assistance of the syndicate of hunters and the Egyptian Shootin Club.

Does it cover the following? (tick where applicable and provide details)

All forms of waterbird harvesting

Only some forms of waterbird harvesting

>>> Only activities controlled and organized by shooting clubs. The assistance of the hunters syndicate is weak. Also in some wetlands close to or at the borders of some protected areas.

If other, please tick below and provide details.

Other

>>> Harvest data sets are incomplete

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> Implementation of the harvest data system is inefficient due to insufficient human and financial resources. The system is augmented by the implementation of;

2. Towards integrated management of migratory waterbirds and wetlands in Egypt and sub-Saharan Africa "RESSOURCE Project"

50. Has your country phased out the use of lead shot for hunting in wetlands? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.4; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 2.2(d))

No

Please explain the reasons and barriers to introduction of legislation

>>> Only the air pressurized rifles are allowed for hunting birds. They are used only by authorized hunters. They are prohibited inside the protected areas.

The whole system is being reviewed

Has your country introduced self-imposed and published timetable for banning fully the use of lead shot for hunting in wetlands?

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> the whole system is being reviewed

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> A detailed revision of the current system to assess the compliance with all AEWA guidelines and action plans is underway. the results and recommendations will be considered in updating the legislative and implementation frameworks.

51. Are there measures in your country to reduce/eliminate illegal taking? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.6; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 2.2(e))

Yes

How would you rate the effectiveness of the measures?

Low

Please provide details and reasons for the low level of effectiveness.

>>> Lack of resources, mainly staff shortages and insufficient funding.

Please provide details

>>> The national legislation prohibits causing any kind of harm to all living organisms. These laws has clearly identified the protected lists of species and set the rules and regulations for the legal hunt of birds. These regulations give the right to the minister of environment to decide on annual bases whether to open the hunt season or not. to allow for hunting a ministerial decree accompanied by the hunting rules and regulations must be issued just before the season usually in the first half of August.

The main problem is the weak enforcement of the existed laws, rules and regulations apparently because of the insufficient human and financial resources.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> The hunting season in Egypt is open only during the autumn and winter seasons. No hunt is allowed during the return journey of birds, the season ends at the onset of the spring season.

Allowed methods for hunting are those that don't support capturing or killing big numbers at a time.

52. Does your country maintain an adequate system for making realistic estimates of the number of waterbirds taken illegally? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 2.1(b))

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> the monitoring system is weak due to the lack of staff and financial resources.

53. Is legally binding proficiency testing for hunters, including amongst other things bird identification, in place in your country? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.8; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 2.2)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Lack of resources

It is agreed with a newly established wild hunting syndicate to introduce this approach starting from the next season 2022-2023.

54. Are best practice codes and standards for hunting in place in your country in support of enforcement of hunting laws and regulations? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.1.7; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 2.3)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Only the Shooting clubs have their own codes but these are not widely applied outside the shooting clubs. there are some efforts to prepare an Egyptian code and most of the required data has already been collected.

55. Has your country used the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on sustainable harvest of

migratory birds?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What other guidance has been used instead?

>>> no particular reason but the whole system including the legislative framework is being reviewed and updated.

Optionally, you can provide additional information on section 6.1. Hunting

>>> All AEWA guidelines and action plan are to be considered in the review and update process of the national framework for bird hunting.

6.2. Ecotourism

56. Is wetland- and waterbird-related ecotourism integrated into your country's national tourism development strategies or other relevant national strategies? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.2.1; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 2.5(c))

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> was not among the priorities.

this has been changed recently. new plans to develop ecotourism in the country are now in place. these plans are aiming at developing and strengthening the bird-watching capacities in the country. many activities have already been implemented.

57. Are there existing ecotourism initiatives in your country specifically based on migratory waterbirds and their habitats? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 2.5)

Yes

Please describe how many initiatives are in place and provide details for each of them

>>> Birding Egypt is a group of enthusiastic bird watchers aiming at promoting bird-watching activities in Egypt. this initiative is supported by the NCS and EEAA in many ways. new plans to develop bird-watching in the country are now in place.

Please rank the degree to which these initiatives are designed to deliver both conservation and community benefits:

High

Please provide details

>>> The initiative has been the idea of a group of conservationists of different ages. It provides valuable information and support to all ornithologists and bird lovers.

The initiative now holds over 8000 members and they are very cautious not to accept hunters among them nor to share important sensitive info about birds and habitats on their website. They established a strong link and channels of cooperation with the NCS/EEAA and they organize some events together. one of their focus areas is to raise environmental awareness.

Please rank the degree to which these dual benefits are being delivered in practice:

Medium

Please provide details and the reasons for successful delivery and barriers to fuller delivery

>>> lack of resources to establish an entity to represent that group of ornithologists and environmentalists.

6.3. Other human activities

58. Have restrictions on use of lead fishing weights been introduced in your country? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.12). When answering this question please also consider question 78 in chapter 7 - Research and monitoring.

Yes

Please describe what restrictions are in place, when they were introduced and whether they are considered to have worked (i.e. reduced the impact of lead poisoning). Please attach any published or unpublished references.

>>> The use of lead fishing weights are not among the permitted tools and methods for bird hunt.

59. Does your country have legislation in place, which provides for Strategic Environmental Assessment/Environmental Impact Assessment (SEA/EIA) of activities potentially negatively affecting natural habitats or wildlife? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.1; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 3.5)

Yes and being implemented

Does this legislation apply to the entire country or only to particular states/provinces thereof?

Entire country

Please provide details

>>> Law 4 of 1994 for protection of environment and its amendments necessitate to Study and analyze the environmental feasibility of proposed projects, whose construction or activities might affect the safety of the environment.

Article 20 of the law articulate the procedures that should be followed to get the EEAA conditional approval on the projects.

The EEAA has categorized the activities into 4 categories, A, B, scoped and C where category A include the projects or activities that may have the lowest impact on environment and category C include the projects or activities that may have detrimental effects on the environment or the natural resources.

Do the SEA/EIA processes consider waterbirds and habitats on which they depend?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> The EEAA guidelines for the EIA studies necessitate to include a section to describe the impact of all the phases of the planned activity on biodiversity.

the biodiversity capacity building for the oil and gas sector in Egypt has been enhanced through implementing 18 months project. The EIA guidelines for the oil and gas projects will be reviewed within the framework of this project to give biodiversity more focus and to mainstream it in the oil and gas sector.

Guidelines for carrying out the EIAs are currently being reviewed and updated one of the main reasons is to put in place more focus on biodiversity issues throughout the whole process of carrying out the EIA studies.

Do the SEA/EIA processes include public participation?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> public consultation workshop is an integral part of the EIA procedures for category C projects (those have a significant impact on the environment and biodiversity).

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> NA

60. Are there any other legal and/or administrative measures in your country to avoid, mitigate and compensate for adverse impacts of development activities on the sites of national and international importance for migratory birds? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 3.5)

Yes

Please describe each measure and provide details for each of them

>>> The laws and regulations require that all developmental projects be monitored for their impacts on the environment. The EEAA has a specialized administration for environmental inspection and compliance. This administration has subsidiary departments in the EEAA branches distributed all over the country. Mechanisms for environmental compliance, compensations, and restoration are in place,

Please rank the effectiveness of these measures:

Medium

Please provide details and the reasons for lower effectiveness

>>> Lack of resources

61. In the last three years, has your country used SEA/EIA for all relevant projects, including energy sector projects such as renewable energy developments and power lines installation, to assess the impact of proposed projects on migratory waterbird species listed on Table 1 and/or habitats/sites on which they depend? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.1, Resolution 5.11 and Resolution 5.16; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 3.5(b))

Yes, all proposed projects

Please provide information on the outstanding cases

>>> All the projects of installing electricity transmission cables all over the country have prepared and submitted Strategic Environmental and Social Impact Assessment or Environmental and Social Impact Assessment studies (based upon the scope and size of the project) to the EEAA for approval. The approval is usually a conditional approval that includes a list of conditions and measures to mitigate the impact on all the migratory birds.

A protocol has been signed between all the governmental stakeholders to manage the impact of wind farms in the area of Gulf of Suez on the migratory soaring birds. The area is part of the well known and very important Red Sea/ Rift Valley flyway which is very critical for the migratory soaring birds. The area is close to the coastal line of the Red Sea. The protocol aims mainly to mitigate the impact of wind farms on all the birds and particularly the soaring birds. The mitigation depends mainly on identifying and implementing an Active Turbine Management Program (ATMP). The ATMP depends on applying a Radar Assisted Shutdown on Demand program with the optical observation within the wind farms sites. Another program is also implemented to monitor the efficiency of the ATMP through a comprehensive carcass search program. To date the measures are very successful in minimizing the collision rates and casualties without significantly losing power.

Where an SEA/EIA has identified a likelihood of significant negative impacts on migratory waterbirds, have steps been taken to avoid these impacts, including avoidance of protected areas and other sites of importance for migratory waterbirds?

Yes

Please describe the measures put in place

>>> All the activities that may lead to a significant negative impact on migratory waterbirds are prohibited inside the protected areas.

The EEAA approvals are usually conditional and usually contain a list of measures to minimize the negative impact on all the biodiversity components including waterbirds.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> NA

62. Do you maintain a record of the cases of adverse impacts of development activities and other pressures on sites of national and international importance for migratory waterbirds in your country? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 3.5(a)?)

No

Please explain the reasons.

>>> partially in certain projects in certain sites

Please estimate the number of sites of national and international importance for migratory waterbirds in your country that are subject to adverse impact of development activities or other pressures. Please list those sites with their names, central geographic coordinates and observed impacts.

>>> Burullus Lake, Ras Shoqaire IBA

Please estimate the number of sites of national and international importance for migratory waterbirds in your country where adverse impact of development activities or other pressures has been effectively avoided, mitigated or compensated. Please list those sites with their names, central geographic coordinates and the impacts that have been addressed.

>>> Ras Shoqaire IBA

63. Has your country used the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on how to avoid, minimize or mitigate impact of infrastructural developments and related disturbance affecting waterbirds?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl** button on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What other guidance has been used instead?

>>> no particular reasons. it will be considered in the future

64. Please report on the implementation of Resolution 5.11 on Power Lines and Migratory Waterbirds.

64.1. Are relevant stakeholders, including government agencies, scientific bodies, nongovernmental organisations and the energy sector, being regularly consulted in order to monitor jointly the impacts of power lines on waterbirds and to agree on a common policy of action?

Partially

Please provide details.

>>> There are good communication platforms established with the Egyptian Electricity Transmission Lines Company (the national administrative authority) and a protocol was signed with them a few months ago aiming at conservation of migratory birds and mitigating the collision risks posed by power lines.

There are also good communication channels with the civil society and NGOs like Nature Conservation Egypt, The partner for Birdlife International in Egypt, and many activists in the field of animal rights and welfare.

64.2. Has a baseline of waterbird distribution, population sizes, migrations and movements (including those between breeding, resting and feeding areas) been established as early as possible in the planning of any power line project, over a period of at least five years, and with particular emphasis on those species known to be vulnerable to electrocution or collision?

Partially

Please provide details.

>>> All the power lines projects have prepared and submitted Environmental and Social Impact Assessment studies. According to the regulating laws, the study should determine any potential impact of all phases of the project on biodiversity components and suggest mitigation measures for each phase. A detailed bird study including risk assessment should be annexed to the ESIA study. Most of the studies didn't provide such comprehensive data on waterbirds as outlined in the question. The studies usually provide basic data like species list, potential impact, the importance of project area to waterbirds, and suggested mitigation measures.

64.3 If such studies, as described in the question above, have identified any risks, has every effort been made to ensure these are avoided?

Yes

Please provide details.

>>> As indicated above If the project poses a critical impact on the migratory water and soaring birds a more comprehensive bird monitoring study for several seasons may be requested. The NCS then evaluates the study and decides on the appropriate decision. The characteristics and duration of monitoring are to be decided according to the sensitivity of the project location.

We have also reached an agreement with the governmental administrative authority that all the new powerlines should be designed to be bird-safe and must install reflectors and other birds' alarming devices.

64.4. Have the location, route and direction of new power lines been designated on the basis of national zoning maps?

Partially

Please provide details.

>>> The National Center for Planning for the State Land Uses is responsible for keeping data and producing zoning maps for every activity at the country level. It helps in the land allocation process for governmental activities and projects. It plays important role in coordinating land uses among the governmental agencies. Nevertheless, the design of the routes and direction does not necessarily consider the sensitivity of the habitats in all cases but affected by other factors related to the location of the power stations, topography, and construction cost.

64.5. Has, wherever possible, the construction of power lines along major migration flyways and in habitats of conservation importance* been avoided, where such construction is likely to have significant effects on waterbirds?

* such as Special Protection Areas under the EU Birds Directive, Important Bird Areas, protected areas, Ramsar sites, the West/Central Asian Site Network for Siberian Crane and other waterbirds and other critical sites as identified by the Critical Site Network (CSN) Tool for the African-Eurasian region.

Partially

Please provide details.

>>> This is true in many cases but it really depends on other factors like the scale, importance of the powerlines project, location, and potential impact. In many cases, the administrative authority design the route and direction according to their technical criteria and consider installing mitigation and alarming devices when they start to study the impacts as part of the ESIA process. The mitigation measures may include using bird-safe designs or alerting devices or even requesting to use underground cables.

64.6. Are bird-safe designs in the construction of new power infrastructure, including measures designed to reduce electrocution and collisions being used in your country?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> The mitigation measures depend on many factors like the size and importance of the project, location and potential impact. These measures may include using bird-safe designs or alerting devices or even requesting to use underground cables.

64.7. Have those sections of existing power lines that are causing relatively high levels of waterbird injury and/or mortality due to electrocution and/or collision been identified?

No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

>>> insufficient resources. nevertheless, enough data is available for the main sensitive habitats, especially along the Red Sea coast because it's part of the important Red Sea Rift Valley Flyway and at the same time it's an area of intensive power projects. according to the available data, the collision rate and casualties are minimal in such sensitive habitats.

64.8. Where sections of existing power lines have been identified to cause relatively high levels of waterbird injury and/or mortality due to electrocution and/or collision, have they been modified as a matter of priority?

Partially

Please provide details.

>>> This is true for the Red Sea and Eastern desert area for their importance for bird migration and the many electrical power projects in the area. the mitigation measures include many strategies including modification and burial of the powerlines but this is subject to many factors and the most common measure to be taken is applying some alerting devices to alert the birds.

64.9. Is there in your country regular monitoring and evaluation of the impact of power lines on waterbird populations at the national scale?

Partial

Please provide details.

>>> This is true only for the electricity projects in the Red Sea and Eastern desert.

64.10. Is there in your country regular monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of mitigation measures put in place to minimise the impact of power lines on waterbird populations?

Partial

Please provide details.

>>> This is true only for the electricity projects in the Red Sea and Eastern desert.

64.11. Have the measures contained in Resolution 5.11. been included in your country's National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and relevant legislation?

No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

>>> partially covered by the existed laws and regulations like the EIA regulations but not in the NBSAP.

65. Has your country used the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on how to avoid or mitigate impact of electricity power grids on migratory birds in the African-Eurasian region?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What other guidance has been used instead?

>>> The EEAA has already developed our national guidelines with the assistance of Birdlife International and benefiting from other existed international guidelines. The guidelines are developed for the wind power projects in the Red Sea and Eastern desert but of course, they can be used nationwide. These guidelines have a section designated for the powerlines projects. nevertheless, steps have been taken to develop new guidelines for powerlines.

66. Please report on the implementation of Resolution 5.16 on Renewable Energy and Migratory Waterbirds.

66.1. Has a national sensitivity and zoning mapping to avoid overlap of renewable energy developments with areas of importance for migratory waterbirds been developed in your country?

No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

>>> insufficient resources for producing these maps

there is no urgent need for the maps as little or no overlap

these maps have been produced only for the Red Sea and Eastern desert because of its importance and high sensitivity.

66.2. Have any international environmental guidelines, recommendations and criteria been followed in your country for impact assessment of renewable energy developments and the utilization of renewable energy sources?

Yes

Please describe which guidelines, recommendations and criteria have been followed.

>>> Guidelines for EIA studies and bird monitoring for wind farms in Egypt were developed under the supervision and approval of Birdlife International. the guidelines were developed particularly for the Red Sea Rift Valley flyway but it can be used nationwide.

66.3. Is post-construction monitoring being undertaken of the renewable energy installations and associated infrastructure in your country?

Yes

Please share information and lessons learnt from the post-construction monitoring.

>>> A protocol has been signed between all the governmental stakeholders to manage the impact of wind farms in the area of the Gulf of Suez on the migratory soaring birds. The area is part of the well-known and very important Red Sea/ Rift Valley flyway which is very critical for the migratory soaring birds. The area is close to the coastal line of the Red Sea. The protocol aims mainly to mitigate the impact of wind farms on all the birds and particularly the soaring birds. The mitigation depends mainly on identifying and implementing an Active Turbine Management Program (ATMP). The ATMP depends on applying a Radar Assisted Shutdown on Demand program with the optical observation within the wind farms sites. Another program is also implemented to monitor the efficiency of the ATMP through a comprehensive carcass search program. To date the measures are is very successful in minimizing the collision rates and casualties without significantly losing power.

Egypt is doing great on this matter of concern, we have developed a successful model for generating clean and sustainable energy from wind farms that are covering a huge area and space of a critical migration flyway while minimizing the impacts (collision and barrier effect) on the migratory birds. The whole process is managed adaptively as we learn by doing and constantly do whatever necessary modifications as we learn and as we build our knowledge and understandings.

The most important lesson learned is that renewable energy projects should be sustainable by taking into consideration the conservation of birds. Also, wind energy and bird conservation can be achieved simultaneously.

Has adverse effect on migratory waterbirds and their habitats been identified?

Yes

Are mitigation measures being implemented?

Yes

Please provide details on the measures implemented.

>>> The followings are the most important;

1. Applying bird monitoring studies in the winter and spring seasons for the whole life of the wind farm project. These studies must assess the impact on both migratory and resident birds.

2. Bird monitoring studies are applied before, during, and after construction.

3. Applying an Active Turbine Management Program for the shutdown on demand of wind turbines as described in previous questions.

4. Limitations apply to the highest tip of the wind turbine according to site and results of bird monitoring studies.

5. painting strips of blades with colorful and clear paint.

6. establishing escape corridors.

7. using the best available technology of wind turbines that generate higher electricity to reduce the number of wind turbines to the minimum.

8. using radar-assisted shutdown on-demand program as described before.

9. bird-safe design of power lines and whenever possible and affordable use underground cables.

10. casualties and carcass search program is implemented to judge the efficiency of the shutdown on-demand

program.

11. The whole process of establishing and running wind farm projects in the Red Sea and Eastern desert is strictly supervised by NCS/EEAA including preparation of the ESIA studies, environmental management of the projects, and compliance with the rules, regulations, and permit's list of conditions.

Please share information and lessons learnt from the mitigation measures.

>>> Good and effective implementation and monitoring of the mitigation measures have resulted in very low mortalities of birds (most mortalities are due to collision with the old power transmission cables). The measures are applied in the wind farm project at Gebel ElZayt area which is close to the Red Sea and one of the bottlenecks of the Red Sea / Rift Valley flyway for soaring birds nevertheless the bird collision rate is extremely low and number of casualties is insignificant. In the same time total hours of shutdown of the turbines are insignificant thus the electricity loss due to the shutdown of demand is negligible.

An important element to the success is establishing a good and effective communication platform between the EEAA and the Electricity sector and building trust with that important sector. One of the important lessons learnt is the need for building the national capacities in all fields of ornithology and assessing risks on biodiversity. The most important lesson of course is that we can invest in sustainable renewable energy and in the same time safeguarding and protecting the migratory birds.

66.4. Where damage cannot be avoided or mitigated, has compensation for damages to biodiversity been provided?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Although not clear in the law to compensate for damage to biodiversity but it's a judicial principle to compensate for any damage to any component of the environment. The EEAA has established a committee for environmental compensations while the wind farm projects in the Red Sea have their own agreed system.

Operate wind farms in ways that minimise bird mortality, for example by introducing shortterm shutdowns during peak migration and minimising lighting in wind farms.

Yes

Please provide details

>>> by applying a Radar-Assisted Shutdown On Demand program.
Please see answers to previous questions

Dismantling of wind turbines in existing installations, should waterbird mortality have an effect on the population status of a species and other mitigation measures have proved insufficient.

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> There is little or even no overlap between areas designated for wind energy and areas important for waterbirds, only a small number of waterbird species are subject to impacts. Most of the impacts are on soaring birds. Nevertheless, the impact on migratory birds is extremely low as described before as a result of the strict management measures taken by the concerned stakeholders.

Focusing research efforts on alleviating the negative effects on waterbirds from wind farms, such as the mapping of the main migration corridors and migration crossings for waterbirds also allowing the optimising of wind farm layouts.

Yes

Please provide details

>>> There is little or even no overlap between areas designated for wind energy and areas important for waterbirds, only a small number of waterbird species are subject to impacts. Most of the impacts are on soaring birds. Nevertheless, the impact on migratory birds is extremely low as described before as a result of the strict management measures taken by the concerned stakeholders.

Other

Yes

Please specify below and provide details.

>>> Making use of the best available technologies and knowledge like applying Radar Assisted Shutdown on Demand together with the visual optical observations in the wind farms and adopting the adaptive management principles in operation and in testing the measures.
One of the important measures also is studying the cumulative impact assessment for the wind farms located in a given area.

66.6. Have any specific measures been put in place to assess, identify and reduce potential negative impacts of biofuel production on migratory waterbirds and their habitats?

No

Please explain the reasons. What are the constraints preventing implementation of this activity?

>>> insufficient financial resources

66.7. Have the measures contained in Resolution 5.11. been included in your country's National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and relevant legislation?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> partially covered

67. Has your country used the following AEWA Conservation Guidelines - Renewable Energy Technologies and Migratory Species: Guidelines for Sustainable Deployment (Resolution 6.11)?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What other guidance has been used instead?

>>> The EEAA has already developed our national guidelines with the assistance of Birdlife International and benefiting from other existed international guidelines. The guidelines are developed for the wind power projects in the Red Sea and Eastern desert but of course, they can be used nationwide.

Egypt is doing great on this matter of concern, we have developed a successful model for generating clean and sustainable energy from wind farms that are covering a huge area and space of a critical migration flyway while minimizing the impacts (collision and barrier effect) on the migratory birds. The whole process is managed adaptively as we learn by doing and constantly do whatever necessary modifications as we learn and as we build our knowledge and understandings.

68. Is by-catch of waterbirds in fishing gear taking place in your country? (Resolution 3.8) (Please respond to this question only with respect to species, which are NOT considered seabirds. Seabird by-catch is dealt with in section 4.6 Seabirds)

Yes

Please provide details

>>> There are some individual records but there is no general assessment for the impact has been conducted.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> NA

69. Please report on the implementation of Resolution 5.12 on Adverse Effects of Agrochemicals on Migratory Waterbirds in Africa (this question is applicable only to Contracting Parties in Africa).

69.1. Have relevant government authorities developed and implemented regulations on the trade and application of agrochemicals known to have a direct or indirect adverse effect on waterbirds?

Yes, but not being implemented

Please explain why not

>>> not efficiently implemented.

currently, steps have been taken targeting the rational use of agrochemicals

69.2. Is the use of such agrochemicals regulated around nationally and internationally important sites for migratory waterbirds, particularly in wetlands, also taking into account run-offs from agriculture affecting aquatic ecosystems?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> weak supervision on the use of agrochemicals. nevertheless, steps have been taken targeting the rational use of agrochemicals

69.3. Are there any steps undertaken to control or reduce the use of avicides in areas frequented by

populations listed in Table 1 of the Agreement?

Yes

Please provide details

>>> part of the national strategy for sustainable agriculture currently, steps have been taken targeting the rational use of chemical inputs in the agricultural activities.

69.4. Have education and training activities been implemented for relevant target groups on the proper use of agrochemicals that may have possible adverse effect on waterbirds?

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> lack of financial resources although steps have been taken targeting the rational use of agrochemicals

70. Has any project / initiative been implemented in your country that promotes the integration of cultural and provisioning ecosystem services of migratory waterbirds into policy and decision-making affecting them or their habitats? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 2.6)

Yes

Please provide details for each project / initiative

>>> Based upon a request from Egypt NFP to the RESSOURCE project, some knowledge products that involve important messages to the policymakers should be produced by the end of the project based upon the results of the project activities.

Are there any other examples or case studies in your country of policies and/or decision making that takes into account cultural and provisioning ecosystem services of migratory waterbirds?

No

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 6.3. Other Human Activities

>>> NA

Pressures and Responses

7. Research and Monitoring

71. Does your country have in place waterbird monitoring schemes for the AEWA species? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Actions 1.4(a) and 1.4(b))

Yes

Covering the breeding period

Guidance: Including pre- and post-breeding sites of concentration, such as moulting sites close to breeding areas

Partially

Please provide details. (incl. list the species covered OR not covered (whichever list is shorter))

>>> Monitoring programs of waterbirds are mainly confined to the wetlands located within protected areas like Ras Mohamed, Red Sea Islands, Ashtoum ElGameil (Manzala Lake), and Burullus. Efforts are also done to do the monitoring in Lake Nasser although non-protected it's one of the important wetlands.

A regular census program was established in 2010 for Lake Nasser with the support of The French National Office for Hunting and Wildlife (ONCFS). Furthermore, a new regional project is being implemented under the framework of the AEWA African Initiative, the RESSOURCE project. That project aims at strengthening expertise in sub-Saharan Africa on birds and their rational use for communities and their environment to achieve the integrated management of migratory waterbirds and wetland resources in Africa. The first component of the project is targeting developing and adopting a common monitoring methodology and carrying out annual census surveys. The census was carried out in 2017 and will continue for the next 4 years with the financial support of the project. The 2017 census covered most of the Egyptian wetlands including Lake Nasser, Nile River, Burullus Lake, and Manzala Lake (activities financed by the RESSOURCE project) plus El Rayan and Qaroun lakes and the Red Sea (activities financed by the Egyptian government).

Limited efforts are done to monitor the breeding sites and periods in the Red Sea and Ashtoum ElGameil PAs. The main challenge for the sustainability of these efforts is the financial resources.

A project proposal is now discussed with one of the universities that is targeting the monitoring, management, and conservation of breeding waterbirds and their breeding grounds.

Is information on drivers of population trends also being collected?

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> no sufficient data on breeding populations.

Covering the passage period

Partially

Please provide details. (incl. list the species covered OR not covered (whichever list is shorter))

>>> Monitoring programs of the waterbirds are mainly confined to the wetlands located within protected areas like Ras Mohamed, Red Sea Islands, Ashtoum ElGameil (Manzala Lake), and Burullus. Efforts are also done to do the monitoring in Lake Nasser although non-protected, it's one of the important wetlands.

A regular census program was established in 2010 for Lake Nasser with the support of The French National Office for Hunting and Wildlife (ONCFS). Furthermore, a new regional project is being implemented under the framework of the AEWA African Initiative, the RESSOURCE project. That project aims at strengthening expertise in sub-Saharan Africa on birds and their rational use for communities and their environment to achieve the integrated management of migratory waterbirds and wetland resources in Africa. The first component of the project is targeting developing and adopting a common monitoring methodology and carrying out annual census surveys. The census was carried out in 2017 and will continue for the next 4 years with the financial support of the project. The 2017 census covered most of the Egyptian wetlands including Lake Nasser, Nile River, Burullus Lake, and Manzala Lake (activities financed by the RESSOURCE project) plus El Rayan and Qaroun lakes and the Red Sea (activities financed by the Egyptian government).

Is information on drivers of population trends also being collected?

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> no sufficient data on trends

Covering the non-breeding/wintering period

Partially

Please provide details. (incl. list the species covered OR not covered (whichever list is shorter))

>>> Monitoring programs to the waterbirds are mainly confined the wetlands located within protected areas like

Ras Mohamed, Red Sea Islands, Ashtoum ElGameil (Manzala Lake) and Burullus. Efforts are also done to do the monitoring in Lake Nasser although non protected but it's one of the important wetlands.

A regular census program was established in 2010 for Lake Nasser with the support of The French National Office for Hunting and Wildlife (ONCFS). Furthermore, a new regional project is being implemented under the framework of the AEWA African Initiative, the RESSOURCE project. That project aims at strengthening expertise in sub-Saharan Africa on birds and their rational use for communities and their environment to achieve the integrated management of migratory water birds and wetland resources in Africa. The first component of the project is targeting developing and adopting a common monitoring methodology and carrying out annual census surveys. The census was carried out in 2017 and will continue for the next 4 years with the financial support of the project. The 2017 census covered most of the Egyptian wetlands including Lake Nasser, Nile River, Burullus Lake and Manzala Lake (activities financed by the RESSOURCE project) plus El Rayan and Qaroun lakes and the Red Sea (activities financed by the Egyptian government).

72. Is data collected through the International Waterbird Census or other relevant monitoring schemes being actively used in your country to inform national-level implementation of AEWA? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 1.5(a))

Yes

Please provide details

>>> monitoring is done by NCS staff sometimes with the cooperation of academia and NGO representatives. usually, these activities are organized with the AEWA NFP. results of the monitoring are presented to the NFP who is occupying a senior position in the AEWA implementing authority, NCS/EEAA.

73. Has your country supported, technically or financially, other Parties or Range States in designing appropriate monitoring schemes and developing their capacity to collect reliable waterbird population data? (Resolution 5.2)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> insufficient resources.

74. Has your country used the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on waterbird monitoring?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

Yes

Please provide details

>>> A national waterbird monitoring guidelines was produced and the standard data collection forms for waterbird census in Africa that was adopted by wetland International is being used since 2009. A common monitoring methodology is being developed by the RESSOURCE project in the framework of the AEWA African Initiative. Development of the monitoring methods is led by the ONCFS. The census program that is being implemented is also developed by the ONCFS.

75. Has your government provided over the past triennium funds and/or logistical support for the International Waterbird Census and/or other waterbird monitoring scheme at international or national level? (Resolution 6.3)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> The support is usually given to the annual census at the national level.

76. Has your country donated funds to the African-Eurasian Waterbird Fund in the past triennium (Resolution 6.3, Resolution 7.7)?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the Ctrl button on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reason

>>> NA

77. (Applicable to African Contracting Parties only) Were the periods of breeding and of pre-nuptial migration for all AEWA-listed species and their respective populations occurring on the territory of your country identified at national level? (Resolution 7.8)

No, but being planned

Please provide details, including the timelines of the planned work

>>> Although a project was funded by AEWA targeting the nesting waterbirds in the Red Sea Islands, it was of limited value as it is difficult to find its reports nor the results.

A project proposal is now discussed with one of the universities that is targeting the monitoring, management, and conservation of breeding waterbirds and their breeding grounds.

78. Has the impact of lead fishing weights on waterbirds been investigated in your country? (AEWA Action Plan, paragraph 4.3.12). When answering this question please also consider question 58 in chapter 6 – Management of human activities.

No

Are there plans to investigate the impact of lead fishing weights on waterbirds in your country?

No

Please provide reason(s)

>>> The lead fishing weights are not among the permitted tools for hunt and they are not used anyway.

Pressures and Responses

8. Education and Information

8.1. Communication, Education and Public Awareness

79. Has your country developed and implemented programmes for raising awareness and understanding on waterbird conservation and about AEWA specifically? (Strategic Plan 2009-2017, Objective 4, Target 4.3 and AEWA Action Plan, paragraphs 6.1-6.4, Resolution 3.10, Resolution 5.5; Resolution 6.10)

Guidance: Such programmes should consist of a series of established, long-term communication activities, which are guided by clearly defined goals, target audiences and communication channels. A programme does not constitute a single, one-off communication activity, product or event. In other words, an established national programme to raise awareness and understanding on waterbird conservation and about AEWA would ideally be a number of targeted communication activities which are guided by a communication plan and are backed by sufficient human and financial resources.

Other

Please explain

>>> there are no awareness programs designed specifically for waterbirds but as part of the biodiversity and NCS awareness programs. The NCS usually celebrates the international and world days for biodiversity-related topics like the world wetlands day and world migratory birds day

80. Has a National AEWA Focal Point for Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) been designated by your country? (Resolution 5.5; Resolution 6.10)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> We are in the process to nominate a new CEPA FP to replace the current one

81. Have measures been taken by your country to implement the provisions related to "Education and Information" in the AEWA Action Plan over the last triennium? (AEWA Action Plan, Paragraphs 6.1-6.4)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Many efforts and activities are taken place in the framework of the national biodiversity awareness and education programs

82. Have World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) activities been carried out in your country during this reporting cycle? (Resolution 5.5)

Yes

Please describe the activity/activities briefly and upload any sample materials, links or photos available related to the activity/event.

>>> The day is celebrated annually (except for 2020) by NCS/EEAA in collaboration with Nature Conservation Egypt Association and the Regional Migratory Soaring Birds Conservation Project. Field bird watching and awareness activities are carried out with the participation of governmental agencies, NGOs, the Private sector, and communities. Awareness and educational activities are also carried out in some of the protected areas that contain wetlands inside.

2021 celebrations were done virtually by holding a webinar with some of the stakeholders.

83. Has your country provided funding and/or other support, as appropriate (e.g. expertise, network, skills and resources) towards the implementation of the AEWA Communication Strategy and/or towards priority CEPA activities in the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027? Please consider both national and international funding and different types of support provided. (Resolution 6.10)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> limited resources

Pressures and Responses

9. Implementation

84. Have you undertaken a national assessment of the resources needed for the delivery of the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.6.(b))

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> Limited resources,

COVID-19 consequences.

conservation of waterbirds and their habitats is implemented under the framework of the NBSAP.

85. Has your country approached non-contracting party range states to encourage them to accede to the Agreement? (Resolution 3.10; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 5.2)

Report only on activities over the past triennium

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> No particular reasons

86. Does your country have in place a national coordination mechanism for implementation of AEWA, possibly linking to national coordination mechanisms for other biodiversity Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)? (Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.3(b))

Guidance: Such mechanism can be a dedicated cross-institutional working group, involving representatives of the civil society and other relevant stakeholders, aimed at planning, coordinating and reporting the implementation of the Agreement in the country. Alternatively, the implementation of AEWA at national level can be coordinated as an extension of larger national coordination mechanisms for other MEAs, such as National Ramsar Committees or CBD NBSAPs coordination.

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> it was planned to be linked to the Ramsar coordination mechanism but the national mechanism and system for managing the lakes and wetlands are being reviewed and updated and not yet finished. That link will be considered once the updated system is in place.

87. Have you undertaken a national assessment of the capacity needs for AEWA implementation? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.3.(e))

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> As outlined before, implementation of AEWA is taken place under the framework of the NBSAP.

88. Has your country concluded, or considered concluding, twinning schemes between sites with other countries, the sites of which share common migratory waterbirds or conservation issues? (Resolution 5.20)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> no communication and coordination platforms in place

89. Are those officers in your country's government responsible for AEWA implementation co-ordinated and engaged with national processes contributing towards the Aichi Targets and the assessment of achieving these targets? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.4(a))

Yes

Please provide details

>>> EEAA is the competent national implementing authority for CBD and AEWA (among other MEAs related to biodiversity). NCS is the implementing arm of EEAA for these MEAs. The AEWA NFP is now occupying the position of the Head of Biodiversity Central Administration which is the top administrative division responsible for managing biodiversity and implementing all the biodiversity-related MEAs.

90. Are those officers in your country's government responsible for AEWA implementation co-ordinated and engaged with national processes contributing towards the relevant Sustainable Development Goals and the assessment of achieving these goals? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.4(a))

Yes

Please provide details

>>> EEAA is the competent national implementing authority for AEWA, the environment and biodiversity-related targets of the national Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS), and monitoring the progress towards achieving the related global SDGs.

The AEWA NFP is working very closely with the sustainable development unit in the Ministry of Environment. He is a member of the ministry committee responsible for formulating the environmental pillar and related targets in the national SDS, monitoring the progress towards achieving goals and targets, and measuring the indicators of the national SDS and global SDGs. This ministry committee is working closely with the national sustainable units in the ministry of planning and the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics which are the national governmental parties responsible for reporting about the global SDGs.

91. Are those officers in your country's government responsible for AEWA implementation co-ordinated and engaged with national processes to implementation and assess the delivery of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023? (AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Action 5.4(a))

Yes

Please provide details

>>> EEAA is the competent national implementing authority for CMS and AEWA among other MEAs related to biodiversity. NCS is the implementing arm of EEAA for these MEAs. The AEWA NFP is now occupying the position of the Head of Biodiversity Central Administration which is the top administrative division responsible for managing biodiversity and implementing all the biodiversity-related MEAs.

92. Are the AEWA priorities incorporated into your country's National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) and/or other similar strategic plans and policies (Resolution 6.3; AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, Target 5.5)?

92.1 NBSAP

Yes

Please provide details

>>> Targets and goals of the Egyptian NBSAP 2030 have already addressed the waterbird conservation issues and concerns. The NBSAP is giving focus on the management and sustainable use of the wetland resources including the waterbirds. It also addressed the pressures and threats on the wetlands resources and set a number of goals and actions to alleviate these pressures.

92.2 Other strategic plans and policies

Yes

Please name the other strategic planning processes

>>> 1. The Nature Conservation Sector Strategic Plan 2020.
2. Egypt Sustainable Development Strategy 2030 (Egypt vision 2030).

Please provide details

>>> The NCS strategic plan also give the wetlands and wetland resources a good focus. The plan is aligned with the NBSAP.

Egypt vision 2030 is now being reviewed and updated. The NCS biodiversity experts are effectively participating in this process. The sustainable use of biodiversity components is well addressed in the new updated strategy.

Sustainable Development Goals

Yes

Please provide details

>>> The AEWA NFP has participated in the development process of the national sustainable development strategy and in many work sessions with experts and representatives of the relevant stakeholders while discussing and agreeing on the goals targets and indicators.

The AEWA NFP is working closely with the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics in the reporting process on the progress towards achieving the national and global SDGs and measuring the indicators as related to SDG 14 and 15 and some other indicators related to biodiversity matters.

The national sustainable development strategy addresses the sustainable use of the national wetlands and wetland resources.

Aichi Targets

Yes

Please provide details

>>> The AEWA NFP is holding now the position of the head of the Central Biodiversity Administration which is considered the national administrative authority responsible for implementing the CBD and related Aichi targets and is working closely and meets regularly with the CBD NFP who is working as an advisor for the ministry of environment. He is responsible with his team for putting in place and implementing the work plans for implementing CBD and other MEAs.

Strategic Plan for Migratory Species

Yes

Please provide details

>>> The AEWA NFP is holding now the position of the head of the Central Biodiversity Administration which is considered the national administrative authority responsible for implementing the CMS and related Strategic Plan and is working closely and meets regularly with the CMS NFP who is working as an advisor for the ministry of environment. He is responsible with his team for putting in place and implementing the work plans for implementing CMS and other MEAs.

94. How would your country suggest promoting further links between the biodiversity MEAs to which your country is a Contracting Party, so as to make your work more efficient and effective?

>>> Egypt is currently the president of the CBD COP14 and is leading the current efforts of the convention particularly the work done to assess the progress towards achieving the Aichi targets and to finalize the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

Here, we have to refer to one of the main objectives of developing the post-2020 global biodiversity framework which is to provide a real framework for biodiversity conservation not for implementing the CBD. The proposed framework is supposed also to promote connectivity at the ecological levels and between the Biodiversity-related MEAs.

the AEWA NFP has participated in a number of related events and stressed the importance of working on achieving the above-mentioned objectives.

During the CBD COP14, Egypt has officially launched the "Egyptian Initiative for a coherent approach for addressing biodiversity loss, climate change, and land and ecosystem degradation" which is supported by about 50 countries and organizations.

The following ideas and approaches are also to be considered;

1. to consider the synergy and integration between the biodiversity MEAs in the targets of the post-2020 biodiversity framework and in the following CBD COPs.
2. To consider establishing effective coordination platforms among the MEAs implementing agencies.
3. To consider developing a coordinated reporting system for the biodiversity MEAs.

95. Has your country donated funds to the AEWA Small Grants Fund (SGF) over the past triennium? (Resolution 7.1)

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> limited resources allocated for the implementation of AEWA while it is implemented under the framework of the NBSAP.

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> NA

96. Has your country donated other funding or provided in-kind support to activities coordinated by the Secretariat?

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> no reasons in particular

Field for additional information (optional)

>>> NA

97. Has your country prioritised and allocated a Junior Professional Officer (JPO) to the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat for Technical Committee support or for any other area of work? (Resolution 7.11, Resolution 7.12)

No and has not been prioritised

Please explain the reasons
>>> no reasons
will be considered in the future

98. Please report on the implementation of Resolution 6.21 on Resource mobilisation for the implementation of AEWA.

98.1 Did your country's government provide in the last triennium financial and/or in-kind resources to support national activities which are intended to achieve the objectives of this Agreement, particularly those in line with the AEWA Strategic Plan including the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa, and in accordance with your national plans, priorities and programmes?

Yes

Please describe the resources provided

>>> 1- In-kind contributions to the RESSOURCE project.

2- Funding an ambitious program to revive, restore, and improve the water quality of the national wetlands and lakes as they are important habitats for the waterbirds.

3- carrying out a nationwide winter count in 2020-2021 that extended from Lake Nasser in the south to the Nile River estuary and included the Qaroun, ElRayan, and the delta lakes beside the Mediterranean and Red Sea coastal lines.

98.2 Does your country's government have unpaid dues to the AEWA Trust Fund (annual assessed contributions to the Agreement's budget as approved by each session of the Meeting of the Parties)?

Yes

How many annual contributions are outstanding?

>>> contributions for 2020 and 2021

When are they going to be settled?

>>> within 2021 before the upcoming MOP8

98.3 Has your country's government provided funding to support developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, to meet their obligations under AEWA, and the implementation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027? Under this question please report for support provided outside of formal and established intergovernmental cooperation. For the latter, please refer to the next question 98.4.

No

98.4 Does your country's government participate in any South-South, North-South or triangular cooperation to enhance financial and technical support for the successful implementation of AEWA activities?

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> NA

98.5 Does your country's government use innovative financing mechanisms for implementing the AEWA Strategic Plan such as a (national) Migratory Waterbirds Fund?

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> will be considered very soon

98.6 Does the implementation of AEWA in your country benefit from synergies between biodiversity-related conventions at national level, amongst others, through information sharing on potential funding opportunities and sharing of financial resources such as the Desertification Fund, Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Fund, and the Global Environmental Facility?

No

Please explain the reasons

>>> will be considered in the future

Pressures and Responses

10. Climate Change

99. Please outline relevant climate change research, assessments and/or adaptation measures that are relevant to migratory waterbirds and which have been undertaken or planned in your country. (Resolution 5.13)

a. Research and studies of climate change impacts on waterbirds

Undertaken

Please provide references or weblinks to any such work so as to facilitate their use as potential case-studies to assist other Contracting Parties

>>> The impact of climate change on sites and protected areas that are important for waterbirds is not efficiently studied. The main reason is the lack of financial capacities. Nevertheless, there are some discrete studies that were carried out several years ago like;

(Bubenger et al. 2008) showed that Egypt's climate has changed greatly over the last 10,000 years

Hegazy et al. (2008) studied the seasonal temperature distributions in Egypt in the years 2005, 2025, 2050, 2075, and 2100.

There are some other projects, studies, and reports that assessed the impact of climate change on the northern coast and Nile delta region like;

1. The "Adaptation to climate change in the Nile Delta through Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Egypt" project (ongoing project)

2. The "Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation in the North Coast of Egypt" project (ongoing project)

Some efforts were carried out to study the impact of climate change on Lake Burullus which is one of the protected areas.

Another study was carried out in Saint Katherine Protectorate in 2014-2015 to assess the effects of climate change on the disappearance of living organisms on peaks of Saint Katherine due to the rise of temperature.

b. Assessment of the potential vulnerability to climate change of key habitats used by waterbird species (including those outside protected area networks) (Please note that the question asks about habitats, rather than sites. Question 41 in Section 5, sub-section 5.2 investigates vulnerability of sites to climate change)

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

>>> Some efforts were carried out to study the impact of climate change on Lake Burullus which is one of the protected areas. most of not all studies are focusing on sites rather than habitats.

c. Assessment of the potential vulnerability of waterbird species to climate change.

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

>>> limited resources most of the studies are about the vulnerability of coastal line and wetlands to climate change and how to mitigate or adapt to these impacts.

d. Review of relevant national conservation policies relevant to waterbirds and climate change.

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

>>> no particular reasons

probably because it's not among the priorities.

e. National Action Plan for helping waterbirds adapt to climate change (as a separate implementation process or as part of a larger national framework for biodiversity adaptation to climate change. Please note that Question 42 in Section 5, sub-section 5.2 investigates national measures for increasing resilience of the ecological network for waterbirds to climate change).

No relevant activities

Please explain the reasons

>>> no particular reasons, partly because of the resources

probably because it's not among the priorities.

many efforts and mega projects are being implemented to revive the lakes and improve the water quality.

f. Other undertaken or planned relevant activities.

No

100. Has your country used the AEWA Conservation Guidelines on measures needed to help waterbirds to adapt to climate change?

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the Ctrl button on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

No

Please explain the reasons. What other guidance has been used instead?

>>> no particular reasons

Pressures and Responses

11. Avian Influenza

101. What issues have proved challenging in responding nationally to the spread of the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in the last triennium and what further guidance or information would be useful in this respect?

List challenges

>>> 1- Lack of the resources allocated to the Avian Influenza Surveillance Program during 2020-2021 because of the current COVID-19 pandemic that consumed most of the resources and human capabilities. This has greatly affected the surveillance in both wild birds and poultry facilities.

2- Additional cases of H5N8 were recorded, especially after the widespread in Europe since 2017.

3- Shortage of the available medical teams targeting joint surveillance during the vaccination seasons for some other diseases, such as FMD and brucellosis.

4- The limited support of the Livestock and Poultry Protection Fund to the governmental agencies responsible for implementing the National Avian Influenza Control Program as a result of the COVID-19 economic crisis, led to a shortage of the budgets allocated for medium production farms, which constitute 70 percent of the country's production.

5- Continuing import of poultry and birds to fill the gap in local production resulting from HPAI infections in some maternal farms especially during the last 3 years and consequently allocating a lot of resources to examine these imported birds.

6- The remarkable shortage in the carrying capacities of poultry slaughterhouses despite the relative improvement during the last 3 years remains one of the most important challenges and consequently a portion of the poultry production goes directly to the live bird markets which needs to be controlled and minimized.

List required further guidance or information

>>> 1-It is important to note in this regard that HPAI cases are also decreasing in the last two years with an increase in biosafety requirements and the start of a new system for production on the desert back away from the populated areas, the results of which will be seen during the next five years.

2- During monitoring, no new HPAI cases were recorded in wild birds after the last record of H5N8 (in a very low percentage) in waterfowls in 2016-2017.

3- Reactivation of the One Health Platform at the end of 2020 and early 2021 provides a lot of sharing of results and joint work during the current and future period. It is agreed to strengthen the environmental pillar in the platform and a joint work plan is being developed which will lead to improving the allocated resources, more effective surveillance programs, tight control, and limited spread of HPAI.

4-There is an ambitious plan for the government to transfer 60 percent of the poultry production operations and facilities in major projects on the desert back to avoid the spread of any epidemic, infectious or zoonotic diseases, including HPAI.

5- The drop in hunting activities especially touristic and recreational hunting due to the COVID-19 pandemic has positively resulted in reducing the mixing opportunities with wild birds.

Optionally you can provide additional information on section 11. Avian Influenza

>>> NA

12. Confirmation

Confirmation of information verification and approval for submission

Please confirm:

In addition a scanned copy of an official letter from the relevant state institution, approving the report for submission, can be attached.

I declare that the information provided in the Report on the implementation of AEWA for the period 2018-2020 has been verified and the report has been approved for submission by the appropriate state institution in the country.

Date of submission

>>> 19/4.2021